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health policies, programs, and activities; Reserve Component programs, policies, and activities; family policy, dependent's education, and personnel support programs; and mobilization planning and requirements.

Operational Test and Evaluation The Director of Operational Test and Evaluation serves as the principal staff assistant and adviser to the Secretary of Defense on operational test and evaluation in the Department of Defense and is the principal test and evaluation official within the senior management of the Department. The Director prescribes policies and procedures for the conduct of operational test and evaluation within the Department; provides advice and makes recommendations to the Secretary of Defense and issues guidance to and consults with the heads of Defense Components with respect to such activities and specific programs to be conducted in connection with a major defense acquisition program; monitors and reviews all test and evaluation programs to ensure adherence to approved policies and standards; and reviews and makes recommendations to the Secretary of Defense on all

budgetary and financial matters relating to such activities, including operational test facilities and equipment. In addition, the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense are assisted by a special staff of assistants to include the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs; the General Counsel; the Inspector General; the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Intelligence Oversight; the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs; the Director for Administration and Management; and such other offices as the Secretary of Defense establishes to assist him in carrying out his duties and responsibilities.

Command, Control, Communications and Intelligence The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Command, Control, Communications and Intelligence (C³I)) is the principal staff assistant and adviser to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense for C³I, information management, counterintelligence, and security countermeasures matters, including warning reconnaissance and intelligence and intelligence-related activities conducted by the Department of Defense.

Joint Chiefs of Staff

Joint Chiefs of Staff

The Joint Chiefs of Staff consists of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; the Vice Chairman; the Chief of Staff of the Army; the Chief of Naval Operations; the Chief of Staff of the Air Force; and the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is the principal military adviser to the President, the National Security Council, and the Secretary of Defense. The other members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff are military advisers who may provide additional information upon request from the President, the National Security Council, or the Secretary of Defense. They may also submit their advice when it does not agree with that of the Chairman.

Subject to the authority of the President and the Secretary of Defense, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is responsible for:

- assisting the President and the Secretary of Defense in providing for the strategic direction and planning of the Armed Forces;
- allocating resources to fulfill strategic plans;
- making recommendations for the assignment of responsibilities within the Armed Forces in accordance with and in support of those logistic and mobility plans;
- comparing the capabilities of American and allied Armed Forces with those of potential adversaries;
- preparing and reviewing contingency plans that conform to policy

guidance from the President and the Secretary of Defense;

- preparing joint logistic and mobility plans to support contingency plans; and
- recommending assignment of logistic and mobility responsibilities to the Armed Forces to fulfill logistic and mobility plans.

The Chairman advises the Secretary of Defense on critical deficiencies and strengths in force capabilities (including manpower, logistic, and mobility support) and assesses the effect of such deficiencies and strengths on meeting national security objectives and policy and on strategic plans. He establishes and maintains a uniform system for evaluating the preparedness of each unified combatant command to carry out assigned missions.

The Chairman advises the Secretary of Defense on the priorities of the requirements identified by the commanders of the unified combatant commands and on the extent to which program recommendations and budget proposals of the military departments and other DOD components for a fiscal year conform with priorities established in requirements of the unified combatant commands. He is responsible for submitting to the Secretary alternative program recommendations and budget proposals with guidance provided by the Secretary, in order to achieve greater conformance with priorities established by the unified combatant commands. The Chairman also advises the Secretary on the extent to which major programs and policies of the Armed Forces in the area of manpower conform with strategic plans and assesses military requirements for defense acquisition programs.

Additionally, the Chairman:

- formulates doctrine and training policies and coordinates military education and training;
- represents the United States on the Military Staff Committee of the United Nations;

—performs such other duties as may be prescribed by law or by the President and the Secretary of Defense;

—convenes and presides over regular meetings of the Joint Chiefs of Staff;

—assists the Joint Chiefs in carrying on their business as promptly as practicable; and

—schedules issues for consideration by the Joint Chiefs.

The Chairman, while so serving, holds the grade of general or admiral and outranks all other officers of the Armed Forces.

The Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs performs duties assigned by the Chairman, with the approval of the Secretary of Defense. The Vice Chairman acts as Chairman when there is a vacancy in the office of the Chairman, or in the absence or disability of the Chairman. The Vice Chairman, while so serving, holds the grade of general or admiral and outranks all other officers of the Armed Forces except the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Joint Staff

The Joint Staff under the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff assists the Chairman and, subject to the authority of the Chairman, the other members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in carrying out their responsibilities.

The Joint Staff is headed by a Director who is selected by the Chairman in consultation with the other members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and with the approval of the Secretary of Defense. Officers assigned to serve on the Joint Staff are selected by the Chairman in approximate equal numbers from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force. The Joint Staff is composed of all members of the Armed Forces and civilian employees assigned or detailed to permanent duty to perform the functions assigned to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Sources of Information

Contracts and Small Business Activities

Contact the Director, Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Room 2A340, The Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3061. Phone, 703-697-9383.

DOD Directives and Instructions

Correspondence and Directives Directorate, Washington Headquarters Services, Room 2A286, The Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1155. Phone, 703-697-4111.

Employment Almost all positions are in the competitive service and are filled from civil service registers. College recruiting requirements are limited primarily to management intern positions at the B.S. and M.S. levels. For additional information, inquiries should be addressed to the Chief, Staffing Division, Directorate for Personnel and Security, Washington Headquarters Services, Room 2E148, The Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1155. Phone, 703-614-4066.

Films The Department of Defense has certain motion pictures and videotapes available for public, nonprofit exhibition. These are productions required to support training and internal information objectives. There is a catalog of productions available to the public for sale from the National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161. Each Service has its own catalog for internal use. Interested persons should contact the nearest installation of each Service to obtain the appropriate address of the film/videotape distribution center serving that area. Additionally, the Public Affairs Office of each Service at its headquarters in Washington, DC, should be contacted. There is no charge for listings of films. No admission or any other fees may be charged for viewing of films and each film must be shown in its entirety,

including all titles at beginning and end; no portion of the film may be reproduced, edited, or cut in any manner; and qualified operators must be provided by the borrower. Interested purchasers of Department of Defense films may also contact the Sales Branch, National Audio-Visual Center, 8750 Edgeworth Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743-3701. Phone, 301-763-1896.

Pentagon Tours Guided tours of the Pentagon are available Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays. The 1-hour tours start at the Concourse. For further information or reservations, call 703-695-1776; or write: Pentagon Tour Director, Room 3C1054, Washington, DC 20301-1400.

Speakers Scheduling of speaking engagements for civilian and military representatives of the Department of Defense is a responsibility of the Director for Programs, Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs). Speakers on a variety of defense subjects are available in response to invitations at no cost to the local sponsor. However, any speaker can accept transportation, meals, and lodging, if offered by the sponsor of the public event in which he is to participate.

Written requests for speakers should be forwarded to the Director for Community Relations, Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs), The Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1400 (phone, 703-695-2113); or to the Public Affairs Officer of the nearest military installation.

Telephone Directory The Department of Defense telephone directory is available for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. Phone, 202-512-1800.

For further information concerning the Department of Defense, contact the Director, Directorate for Public Communication, Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs), The Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1400. Phone, 703-697-5737.



Joint Chiefs of Staff

The **Joint Chiefs of Staff** (**JCS**) is the body of the most senior uniformed leaders within the United States Department of Defense, which advises the president of the United States, the secretary of defense, the Homeland Security Council and the National Security Council on military matters. The composition of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is defined by statute and consists of a chairman (CJCS), a vice chairman (VJCS), the chiefs of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, and the chief of the National Guard Bureau.^{[1][2]} Each of the individual service chiefs, outside their JCS obligations, works directly under the secretaries of their respective military departments, e.g. the secretary of the Army, the secretary of the Navy, and the secretary of the Air Force.^{[3][4][5][6]}

Following the Goldwater–Nichols Act in 1986, the Joint Chiefs of Staff do not have operational command authority, either individually or collectively, as the chain of command goes from the president to the secretary of defense, and from the secretary to the regional combatant commanders.^[7] Goldwater–Nichols also created the office of vice chairman, and the chairman is now designated as the principal military adviser to the secretary of defense, the Homeland Security Council, the National Security Council and the president.^[8]

The Joint Staff (JS) is a headquarters staff in the Pentagon, composed of personnel from each of the six service branches, that assists the chairman and the vice chairman in discharging their responsibilities and is managed by the director of the Joint Staff (DJS).^[9]

Role and responsibilities

After the 1986 reorganization of the Armed Forces undertaken by the Goldwater–Nichols Act, the Joint Chiefs of Staff does not possess operational authority over troops or other units. Responsibility for conducting military operations goes from the president to the secretary of defense directly to the commanders of the unified combatant commands and thus bypasses the Joint Chiefs of Staff completely.

Today, their primary responsibility is to ensure personnel readiness, policy, planning and training of their respective services for the combatant commanders to utilize. In addition, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff acts as the chief military advisor to the president and the secretary of defense. In this strictly advisory role, the Joint Chiefs constitute the third-highest deliberative body for military policy, after the National Security Council and the Homeland Security Council, which includes the president and other officials besides the chairman of the Joint Chiefs.

Joint Chiefs of Staff

JCS



Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge

Role	Advisory board providing professional military advice to the secretary of defense and the president
Established in practice	1942
Constituting instrument	National Security Act of 1947 currently codified at 10 U.S.C. § 151 (https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/10/151)
Predecessor entities	Joint Board (1903–1942)
Members	
Chairman	Gen Charles Q. Brown Jr., USAF
Vice Chairman	ADM Christopher W. Grady, USN
Number of members	Eight
Administration	
Parent agency	U.S. Department of Defense
Staff organization	The Joint Staff (for the chairman and the vice chairman;

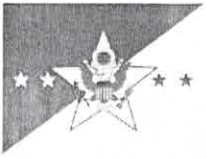
While serving as the chairman or vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, chief of staff of the Army, commandant of the Marine Corps, Chief of Naval Operations, chief of staff of the Air Force, or commandant of the Coast Guard, basic pay is \$18,491.70 a month,^[10] plus a \$4,000 per year personal money allowance.^[11]

Current members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

	the service chiefs and the <u>National Guard Bureau</u> chief have their own staffs assisting them)
Seat	The Pentagon



The Joint Chiefs of Staff in May 2024.

Position	Photograph	Name	Service	Serving since	Nominated by	Flag
Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff		General Charles Q. Brown Jr.	 United States Air Force	1 October 2023	Joseph R. Biden	
Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff		Admiral Christopher W. Grady	 United States Navy	20 December 2021	Joseph R. Biden	
Chief of Staff of the Army		General Randy A. George	 United States Army	21 September 2023	Joseph R. Biden	
Commandant of the Marine Corps		General Eric M. Smith	 United States Marine Corps	22 September 2023	Joseph R. Biden	
Chief of Naval Operations		Admiral Lisa M. Franchetti	 United States Navy	2 November 2023	Joseph R. Biden	
Chief of Staff of the Air Force		General David W. Allvin	 United States Air Force	2 November 2023	Joseph R. Biden	
Chief of Space Operations		General B. Chance Saltzman	 United States Space Force	2 November 2022	Joseph R. Biden	
Chief of the National Guard Bureau		General Daniel R. Hokanson	 United States Army	3 August 2020	Donald J. Trump	

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Non-member attendee

Position	Photograph	Name	Service	Serving since	Nominated by	Flag
Commandant of the Coast Guard		Admiral Linda L. Fagan	 United States Coast Guard	1 June 2022	Joseph R. Biden	

Although it is a branch of the Armed Forces pursuant to 14 U.S.C. § 101 (<https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/14/101>), the Coast Guard operates under the Department of Homeland Security rather than the Department of Defense, except when the president (e.g., in times of war or national emergency) transfers it to the Department of the Navy.^[12] The commandant of the Coast Guard is not a *de jure* member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff but is sometimes regarded as a *de facto* member, being entitled to the same supplemental pay